



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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USDA RESUMES JULY CATTLE SURVEY AND REPORT *January Report Revealed U.S. Cattle Inventory at Its Lowest in 60 Years, Current Count Needed*

Nashville, Tennessee – This July, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will fully reinstate its Cattle program by surveying nearly 10,000 cattle operations nationwide to provide an up-to-date measure of U.S. cattle inventories.

Reduced in March 2013 to an annual program, NASS will resume the semiannual Cattle program with both the July and January surveys and *Cattle* reports.

"In January, NASS reported that the cattle and calves inventory in the United States was the lowest since 1951 at 82.1 million head," said Tennessee State Statistician Debra Kenerson.

"Reinstating the July Cattle survey and report could not come at a better time. This timely information will serve as a critical decision-making tool for producers and the entire agriculture industry."

During the first two weeks of July, Tennessee producers will have the opportunity to report their beef and dairy cattle inventories, calf crop and cattle on feed operations. To make it as easy as possible for producers to participate in the survey, NASS offers the option of responding via the Internet, telephone, mail, or a personal interview with a local NASS representative.

"There is a need for more current data and NASS is aiming to fill that need by resuming the July Cattle survey and report," Kenerson explained. "This data helps producers make timely, informed marketing decisions and plan for herd expansion or reduction. It also helps packers and government, evaluate expected slaughter volume for future months and determine potential supplies."

As is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state and national level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

The July *Cattle* report will be released on July 25, 2014. This and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Tennessee Field Office at 1-800-626-0987.

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